GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1
ANSWERED ON:15.11.2007
QUALITY AND PRICES OF DRUGS
Maharia Shri Subhash

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the mechanism in force for checking the genuineness and originality of the medicines issued to patients through Government Hospitals and Dispensaries;

(b) the number of fake drug suppliers detected/arrested and action taken against them;

(c) whether the Government proposes to formulate guidelines for centralized drug procurement at 50% of MRP for issue through Government healthcare programmes and to ensure that such a move does not allow drug manufacturers and suppliers to raise MRP for general public or to settle for supply of fake drugs to ensure the level of their profits; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARTLIAMENTARY AFFIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE)

(a) to (d): The Government hospitals and dispensaries purchase drugs from licensed manufacturers or chemists as per norms set by the purchase committees of the hospitals or buying agencies to ensure that drugs purchased for distribution to the patients conform to the prescribed standards. No reports of detection or arrest of any drug supplier for supplying fake drugs have been received by Directorate General of Health Services in the recent past.

In the draft National Pharmaceutical Policy, 2006, which is presently under consideration of the Group of Ministers, this Department has proposed certain measures for streamlining of bulk procurement of drugs by Government.